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## Some Notes on Neotropical Stagbeetles. (Coleoptera: Lucanidae)

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The purpose of the present contribution is three-fold: 1) to define certain neotropical genera of Lucanidae; 2) to record corrections to errors, affecting the foregoing group of insects, appearing in the recently issued "Catalogue illustré" by Didier and Seguy (1953), and 3) to describe an insect catalogued by Germain (1911) as *Sclerognathus nitidus*, which remained a bare name to this date.

The nondescript insect is a component of a small lot of Chilean stagbeetles, on loan from the Museo Nacional, Santiago, Chile, destined for monographing the genus *Pycnosiphorus* Solier. I am under deep obligation to Dr. G. Kuschel, Universidad de Santiago, who was instrumental in securing the loan, to whom I herewith render my sincere thanks.

### Tribe SCLEROSTOMINI

The genera *Pycnosiphorus* Solier (1851) and *Sclerostomus* Burmeister (1847), hitherto included in DORCINAE, form a distinctive tribe, for which the name SCLEROSTOMINI is here proposed. The tribe has analogous characters to FIGULINAE, as defined by Burmeister (1847), where both sexes have the buccal appendages (inner maxillary lobe or lacinia) uncinately or hooked, and the female genitalia bear styli, the last analogous to the subfamilies SINODENDRINAE, AESALINAE, SYNDESINAE and LAMPRIMINAE.

The tribe SCLEROSTOMINI can be readily separated from FIGULINI and NIGIDIINI, by being dimorphic,<sup>1</sup> and not having the eyes completely circumscribed by the canthi; the genera comprising the tribe can be at once distinguished by their antennae, which have the clava of figuline aspect in *Sclerostomus* (clava glabrous, sensory area confined to anterior face of the segments), and dorcine in PYCNOSIPHORUS (clava lobate, the segments spongiose and pubescent throughout, analogous to DORCINAE).

The tribe SCLEROSTOMINI, as pointed out by Westwood (1855), differs from the DORCINAE, in that both sexes have the buccal appendages uncinata (in DORCINAE the female only) and the female genitalia bearing styli (simple in DORCINAE).

### *Pycnosiphorus* Solier

The members of this genus are known to occur in the extreme south-western tip of South America (Argentina and Chile), with two additional species, as yet unrecorded, from Ecuador (*caelatus* (Blanch.)) and Peru (*mandibularis* (Solier)); they form two homogenous groups, with pronounced sectional characteristics, i.e., structure of the head, mandibles and compressed or excavated pronotum, and the presence of a pronotal tubercle. According to those characters, the *femoralis* group has the head (both sexes) triangularly depressed, base of triangle to front, extending from the occiput to front, pronotum without a frontal tubercle; the *mandibularis* group, as the name implies, has distinctive mandibles, head deeply, semicircularly excavated, pronotum (both sexes) with an antero-median tubercle. A very distinctive character, pointed out by Arrow (1943), is "a very broad depression in the middle of the pronotum," which is absent in *Sclerostomus*, or at most feebly indicated by a simple canaliculation, or replaced by a cornute process, as exemplified by *S. cucullatus* (Blanch.).

In the "Catalogue illustré" by Didier and Seguy (1953), the species of *Pycnosiphorus* are so confused and indiscriminately intermixed that to make the catalogue of some practical value, the following correction must be made.

<sup>1</sup> Except *Sclerostomus tuberculatus* (Solier), as far as known.

Of the thirty species assigned to *Pycnosiphorus*, ten (*aurocinctus* Boil., *denticulatus* Lued., *dentifer* (Möllenk.), *margivillosus* Lued., *rotundatus* Boil., *securiformis* Lued., *signatipennis* Deyr., *sulcicollis* (Möllenk.), *truncatus* Lued., *tucumanus* Nagel) must be transferred to *Sclerostomus*, and one (*tristis* Deyr.) removed to *Apterodorcus*, if Deyrolle's description is accepted as valid, and the comparison, with *A. bacchus* (Hope et Westw.), is (proved to be) correct. *Tristis* was referred by Benesh (1945) to *Apterodorcus*, solely on its comparison by Deyrolle with *A. bacchus*; Didier and Seguy have assigned the species to *Pycnosiphorus*, without indicating their reason for the action.

### Sclerostomus Burmeister

In uniting *Sclerostomus* and *Scortizus*, suppressing the first, Arrow (1943) overlooked, or disregarded, one character, pointed out by Westwood (1855), which separates the two genera. As previously indicated for the tribe SCLEROSTOMINI, *Sclerostomus* has the buccal appendages (in both sexes) unciniate, which certainly does not apply to *Scortizus*, reported by Westwood to have the buccal appendages simple in the male, unciniate or hooked in female.

In accepting Arrow's views, without serious research on their part, Didier and Seguy assigned five species (*buckleyi* Waterh., *costatus* (Hope et Westw.), *gounellei* (Boil.), *ruficollis* (Lued.), and *tuberculatus* (Solier)) to *Scortizus*, which are all, in fact, true members of *Sclerostomus*, as defined by Burmeister (1847).

### *Sclerostomus nitidus* Benesh, n. sp.

*Sclerognathus nitidus* Germain, Bol. Museo Nacional, Santiago, III, 1911, p. 66, nom. nud.

Diagnosis: black, nitid, allied to *S. tuberculatus* (Solier), but broader, and more convex.

♀. Head broader than long (1.1 × 2.8 mm.), declivous from occiput to the front, slightly excavated in center, center ocellate-punctate, the punctures gradually diminishing in size towards the margins. Anterior margin nearly straight, clypeus pro-

duced, rounded; antero-lateral angles obtuse, obscurely emarginate to canthi; canthus anteriorly arcuate and parallel opposite to and half-way circumscribing the eye; eyes fairly large, parallel; post-ocular portion slightly converging to base. Mandibles shorter than the head, externally arcuate and keeled, inner edge with a single ante-median simple tooth. Antennae ten-jointed, clava composed of three segments, of figuline aspect.

Pronotum one and one-half times as long as broad, strongly convex, anterior margin sinuous; antero-lateral angles produced and acuminate, projecting well beyond the anterior margin; sides arcuate and diverging to basal third, thence gently convergent to basal angles, which are nearly square, basal margin uneven, with center broadly concave. Center of the anterior area with ovate depression, the latter with several close large punctures within and demarcated on each side and at base by a conical tubercle, as in *tuberculatus*. Punctured throughout, but less closely than the head, the punctures reduced in size and intensity in lateral declivity.

Scutellum broader than long (.5 × .3 mm.), parabolic, with a few fine punctures. Elytra one and one-half times as long as broad, broadest at the juncture of the median and apical thirds, apex rounded; humeri slightly oblique and produced, mucronate, extending well beyond the scutellum; sculptured from suture to the humeri with six striae-like rows of large, circular punctures, with smaller, less numerous punctures between the rows and on lateral margins; apical angles strongly punctured.

Legs short and stout; anterior tibiae externally strongly furcate and denticulate from the furcation to the knees by four progressively reduced teeth; intermediate and posterior tibiae with a single median spine.

Venter strongly punctured throughout, the femora less so; abdomen strongly nitid. Mentum transverse, closely cribripunctate throughout, opaque, twice as broad as long, anterior margin broadly concave, antero-lateral angles obtusely rounded, base straight, center feebly depressed.

♂ unknown.

*Holotype*: a female, without locality, bearing two labels: *Dorcus nitidus* Ph., 1399, and *D. nitidus* Ph., 1773, in Museo Nacional, Santiago, Chile.

Described from a unique specimen, named, but not described, by Philippi as *nitidus*, which name is here retained. It was subsequently recorded by Germain (1911) as *Sclerognathus nitidus*.

*S. nitidus* can be readily separated from *tuberculatus*, by its greater convexity and posterior width, more shiny aspect and non-tuberculate elytra, which in *tuberculatus* are costate from the suture to humeri, the three costae broken and forming oblong tubercles, the humeri less projecting and right angled, the head less declivous, pronotum laterally less arcuate, etc.

Measurements (in millimeters) of *S. nitidus* and *tuberculatus*, used for comparison and definition of the new species, follow:

	length × width	
	<i>nitidus</i> n. sp.	<i>tuberculatus</i>
Head (incl. mandibles)	1.5 × 2.8	1.6 × 2.8
Pronotum	3.5 × 5.0	3.5 × 4.6
Elytra <sup>2</sup>	7.5 × 5.2	7.6 × 4.8
Overall	12.5	12.7

### Colocephalaria Didier

In "A systematic revision of the Holarctic genus *Platycerus* Geoffroy," Benesh (1946) declared the genus *Colocephalaria* Didier (1929) congeneric with *Metadorcus* Parry (1870), recommending suppression of the "new genus" as superfluous and unnecessary in systematics of Lucanidae. This was based, of course, on the characteristics of the male, as described and figured by Deyrolle (1864).

Upon further exploration of the matter, it must be recorded here that *Colocephalaria*, as conceived by Didier (1929), is composite; the male, described by Deyrolle (1864) as *Platycerus ebeninus*, being a true *Metadorcus*, and a female, identified by Boileau as *ebeninus*, in Didier's collection (ex-coll. Boileau), proves to be a true member of *Sclerostomus*. The latter appertains to the *rotundatus* group, particularly to *tucu-*

<sup>2</sup> From base of scutellum.

*manus* Nagel (1932), of which the female has been just recently described by Martinez (1953), and whose description is not recorded in the "Catalogue illustré," apparently being unknown to the authors.

Obviously Didier was unduly influenced by the suggestion in the last paragraph of Deyrolle's description, which he records verbatim as follows: "Peut-être les antennes, le prosternum, les cuises et les tibiais fourniraient-ils des caractères pour former un genre distinct? Dans tous les cas, ils font de cet Insecte une division bien tranchée de celle des espèces typiques."

It is manifest that Didier in his anxiety and haste to provide a new name for the insect, and add another "mihi" to his credit, overlooked the fact that the male *Platyccerus ebeninus*, which perhaps was unknown to him in nature, and which he certainly did not have before him, has every character assigned by Parry (1870) to *Metadorcus*, with "head broad, antennae short, four anterior tibiae indistinctly denticulate, posterior unarmed."<sup>3</sup> In addition, Didier overlooked the figure, accompanying the description of *P. ebeninus*, which clearly shows the intermediate tibiae with one spine, posterior tibiae unarmed, a feature entirely at variance with the female brought forward as that of *ebeninus*, with intermediate tibiae tri-spinose, posterior ones bi-spinose.

From the preceding we readily understand that Didier (1929) and Seguy (1953) are apparently unable to distinguish between existing genera, in present instance *Metadorcus* and *Sclerostomus*, inducing them to devise "new genera" as *Colocephalaria*, *Caprinigidius*, *Cladognathinus* and *Chiasognathinus*, "genera" of doubtful usefulness and little scientific value, only adding to the clutter of redundant synonymic names.

In recording again *Colocephalaria*, after its suppression by Benesh (1946) as another superfluous synonym, Didier and Seguy (1953) by inadvertence omitted, or carefully avoided, recording the position taken by Benesh, thus making their "Catalogue illustré" somewhat incomplete and out of date; whether the authors considered it relevant or not, the record should have appeared in the opus.

<sup>3</sup> The italics are the author's.

## Tribe SCORTIZINI

The genera *Scortizus*, *Leptinopterus*,<sup>4</sup> *Charagmophorus*, *Auxicercus*, *Apterodorcus* and *Dorculus*, with sectional characters indicated anteriorly for *Scortizus*, form another distinctive tribe, for which the name SCORTIZINI, suggested by W. Douglas Hincks, Manchester Museum, is proposed. This tribe, as indicated by Benesh (1945) for *Apterodorcus*, shows phylogenetic affinity to LAMPRIMINAE, in which subfamily it is included, in the second edition Coleopterorum Catalogus, Pars Lucanidae. I am not positive, at this date, whether *Auxicercus* and *Dorculus* definitely belong here; *Dorculus* and the female *Auxicercus* are unknown to me in nature, the former being placed here solely on account of its great similarity to *Dendroblox*, a member of the tribe LAMPRIMINI.

Under *Scortizus*, as conceived by Westwood (1834), are included four species, in deference to Westwood's expressed opinion (1855), as follows: *cruentus* (Burm.), *maculatus* (Klug), *plagiatus* (Burm.), and *pulverosus* Westw.; the first three species are members of the Brazilian fauna, whilst the last occurs in Colombia. A new species, as yet undescribed, has recently been discovered, by Señor Martínez, in Bolivia. It approximates closely *S. maculatus*, its chief characteristics being the total absence of squamae, from which *maculatus* derives its name.

**Metadorcus** Parry

According to Didier and Seguy (1953), the type of *Metadorcus* Parry (1870) is *Leptinopterus rotundatus*; this is incorrect. The type is *Psalidostomus rotundatus*, as the species *rotundatus* was originally described under that generic name; it was subsequently recorded by Parry (1864) as *Leptinopterus*, and in 1870 declared the type of *Metadorcus*.

I am indebted to Dr. Henry F. Howden, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn., for reading and correcting the present manuscript.

<sup>4</sup> I herewith thank Mr. E. B. Britton, British Museum (Nat. Hist.), for a specimen of *Leptinopterus v-nigrum* (Hope et Westw.) ♀, supplied to be used for dissection, to definitely place the genus.

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## Two New Species in the Genera *Dipogon* Fox and *Minagenia* Banks (Hymenoptera, Psammocharidae)

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Since my paper on these genera was written the following new species have turned up and are described below.

### *Dipogon hondurensis* n. sp.

Holotype female: body completely black, with slightly bluish tinge on head and thorax with abdomen black and shining; a few long upright reddish hairs on clypeus, more numerous blackish red ones on vertex, posterior orbits with fewer ones on fore coxae, pronotum, mesonotum, propodeum and dorsal and ventral surface of abdomen; the clypeus, lower face, anterior orbits, and most of thorax covered with appressed, slightly